

Privatisation of post offices

124. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to privatise more than 100 post offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had decided to give post offices on franchise basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Dues of IUC in respect of supplementary charges

125. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amounts of IUC (Interconnect Usage Charges) dues in respect of supplementary bills are pending from different Basic Private Operators;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these private operators are offering limited mobility services on fixed phones;

(c) if so, the details for (a) and (b) above operator-wise; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes,

Sir, About Rs. 343 Crores are pending from different Private Operators on account of supplementary bills of Interconnect Usage Charges (IUC) raised by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

(b) and (d) The Government has issued the instructions clarifying that any fixed wireless terminal which cannot be restricted to the premises where it is registered for, will be treated as Limited Mobile Service with reference to Access Deficit Charge, Routing and Numbering Plan. The raising and settlement of bills on account of IUC are being done by the operators as per Interconnection Agreements signed between them.

Special courts for cyber crimes

126. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up special courts to deal with cyber crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) and (b) The Adjudicating Officers have been appointed for adjudicating such contraventions as provided for in the Information Technology Act, 2002. Cyber Appellate Tribunal has been established to hear the appeals against the orders of Adjudicating Officers.

The Cyber Appellate Tribunal and the Adjudicating Officers have been vested with the powers of Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedures, 1908 as provided in Sub-section (2) of Section 58 of the IT Act, 2000.

(c) Does not arise.

Provision of Re.1 per STD call

127. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided Re. 1 per STD call in the country, if so, from when;